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TO HOUSE TO HOUSE TRANS-

In a former article published in "The Hustler," I made a statement that consumption is not a communicable disease in the sense of being transmitted from house to house by aerial transmission. I have reached that opinion by reading and by personal observation of the disease in the individual for the past eight or ten years. I have combined with it, a knowledge of bacteriology and physics: the latter, so far as it has to do with disease tranmission. Possibly a few quotations from medical literature might give a clearer proof of the truth of my position than does just the dogmatic statement I have heretofore made. Understand me to mean by "a erial tranmission," the germs of the disease being blown from house to house, as in scarlet fever, dipithe-

To quote from an article of my own, published in a medical journal in June 1909:-"It is hardly necessary to say that the tubercle bacillus has no motion of its own accord, and that its being carried about by the winds is very limited at most. We find infected air only and solely in the infected room of the careless consumptive, and we find it then only following the pernicious habit of dry-cleaning." In another portion of that same article I stated: "The Tubercle Bacillus is not found floating about in the air around or near the home of the consumptive, even if the consumptive should be a careless one."

If this be true, it is evident that the disease can not be transmitted from house to house by aerial tranmission. If we are to contract the disease from another, we must either go into his room which he has carelessly infected, stir up the dust, and during the few minutes the dust will remain in the air of the room, must breathe into the body sufficient infection to produce the disease. Or the consumptive must come into your house, carelessly infect your room, following which, under the same circumstances, you may inhale the infection.

There is a medical work known as 'Nothnagel's Encyclopedia or Practical Medicine" composing several volumns, and is accepted as one of the highest authorities in the entire world. One volume is devoted entirely to the subject of tuberculosis, or consumption, in all of its phases. In this volume, which is better known as "Cornet's Work on Tuberculosis," I find the following statements, which should give some idea as to the correctness of my personal opinion concerning aerial transmission of tuberculosis from house to house:"

Cornet writes:-"On theoretical and practical grounds, the belief in the ubiquity (which means the presence everywhere) of the tubercle bacillus may be considered absolutely discredited. The tubercle bacillus is found, as a rule, only in places in which an uncleanly consumptive maintains himself; otherwise it occurs but rarely." Another quotation from the same authority: "The danger of infection in the open plays no very alarming role. In the open, in the dust of streets, it has hitherto been impossible, in spite of numerous trials, to find tubercle bacilli in places protected from direct expectoration. This assumption is confirmed, as I showed at the time, by the fact that street sweepers who brethe this dust continually very rarely affected with tuberculosis, even though they follow their arduous occupation for years; and subsequent investigation by the author gave the same results for coachmen."

Cornet also writes: -"It appears, therefore, that as a rule tubercle bacilli occur in virulent condition only in dwellings, institutions, factories, hotels, in proportion as they are occupied by consumptives. But even under such circumstances, the infectice area was relatively narrow because the markedly hygroscopic quality of dried, sticky, mucin-rich sputum and of the mucin-hich becilli oppose to a certain extent fine sundivision and wide desemination." One more quotation from Cornet: "It is, of pecially and almost exclusively in places occupied by uncleanly con-

Turning from Cornet, I find Latham, another world-wide authority, and Medical Director of Brompton Hospital in London, writing "It is a well known fact that the tubercle bacilli are never found in the air where tub erculosis people have not resided, and are seldom found in the air even of houses inhabited by consumptive people. Thus, Cornet and others have been unable to detect the bacilli in many public places, whilst Flugge (another world-wide authority) states that the air of a tuberculous patient's bed room can seldom be shown to be infectious, and that the floating dust must be present in clouds, as in the case, for example, in factories, orwhen rooms are swept:"

To illustrate the narrowness of the area of possible infection I will cite the observation of Engelmann another world-wide authority. It is as follows:- "A newly built flat, in fairly sanitary condition, but badly lighted and ventilated, has been occupied for eight years by three families in succession; all of them had presented a clean list of health until the family took up their residence in the same quarters. In this family the mother was consumptive when she came. She one year only. The flat was next occupied by the family Y, of seven persons, all healthy. After a year's stay ing. they left, and some years latter the father, mother, and one son died of phtisis (which means consumption), and a boy of chronic peritonitis. A third family, Z, all healthy to begin for sale is B. F. Collins, who lives just with, next took the rooms. One child outside the city limits. He proposes died of meningitis, another of maras- to take this means of getting employmus and a third contracted hip dis- ment to support himself and four deease; subsequently the father died of pendent children. Previous to the phthisis, another child of memingitis, same he will make a talk on existing the mother acquired consumption, and labor conditions. He says he has been a child became scorfulous. A fourth out of work two weeks and has applied family, W, next came into the resi- to 200 men for employment.

CONSUMPTION, WITH REFERENCE dence. After a time the mother became phthisical (meaning consumptive) and two children died of meningitis. During the whole period during which these observations range the flat was never empty and was never painted or cleaned. In other parts of the same building, which were proper ly cleaned, no case of tuberculosis oc-

Engelmann's observation shows that in one portion of a house, where during a period of eight years, no less than twelve people contracted tuberculosis, due to occupying rooms which had been occupied by a consumptive, the evidence being that the ariginal consumptive was a careless one, and that the rooms were never cleaned; yet, during all of those years IN THE SAME HOUSE, not next door to it, or even farther re moved others failed to contract the disease. This is positive proof that the area of infection about the room of the careless consumptive in indeed very narrow. Pottenger, another high authority,

writes; "It is probably that nearly all cases of tuberculosis, resulting from dust infection, have been contracted from within the house. Ordinarily for infection to take place, there must first be a careless patient to scatter the bacilli, and there must be an association with him in quarters under conditions which favor the preservation of the life of the bacilli, or a dwelling in such quarters after the departure of the patient." This opinion seems to have been written specially to sustain my position when hold that you must associate with the consumptive in his own quarters, or he with you in yours, if you are to contract the disease from him. Pottenger also writes: "Experiments show that the floor is the part of the room which is the seat of greatest infection, and that nearly all infection in rooms is confined within two and one half feet of the floor." This is certainly not a wide area of infection I could give many more citations from communication fro mhouse to house by aerial transmission

I would have no one think I do not favor controlling tuberculosis as much as possible; and should it become necessary, control the consumptive himself. I believe all cases of tubercuofficer, so that he can see that they can beat it?-Lincoln News. are properly instructed and can fumigate the rooms when the sufferer has moved, so as to protect others who may occupy them lacer. I also believe the health officer should hold the information confindential, using it only for the purpose of instructions and fumigation, not to advertise the sufferer's unfortunate condition and subjecting him to the humiliation which the public is so prone to inflict upon

To control tuberculosis and the person who is suffering from it we must first find him. Then we can fumigate the quarters w hich he has vacated, which alone will make them safe to others who later occupy them. Already there is too much tendency on the part of many consumptives to conceal the fact that they have the disease, and we should do nothing, not even little things, which are unnecessary, which will tend to increase the tendency to secrecy on the part of the

I do not believe in placarding the home. It will not assist in killing the germs that may be in the quarters of the consumptive. Since we must kill the germs and since fumigation is our only sure way of doing it; and since we must find the consumptive's quarters first before we can fumigate; and since placarding will certainly make the consumptive more secretive. then I not only do not believe it proper to placard, but do believe it will be further means of spreading the dis-

A final quotation from Pottenger in this regard may be interesting "Health Board control in tuberculosis is not for the purpose of placarding a house or establishing quarantine, as is diphtheria and scarlet sever. Such measures are not at all necessary; it is simply for the purpose of knowing where all cases are located, that they be instructed, and of knowing when course, true that bacilli are found es- the premises are vacated, that they may be cleaned and disinfected."

I thank "The Hustler" for the space given to this article, as well as for its willingness to give space to all health articles.

Thirty-Five Cats and Two Dogs Are Named as Co-Respondents.

Kansas City, Dec. 21.—Naming as eo-respondent not another man, but thirty-five cats and two dogs, Samuel Pomeroy, of Bethel Kan., filed suit for divorce. He asserts in his petition that after his marriage four years ago his wife added the pets to the household and gave them more care than she gave him. Pomeroy is 74 years old an da civil war veteran.

"I nall my experience of four years as soldier," he said, "I never had to contend with such conditions as those dogs and cats created at my home.

Offered Himself for Sale to Buy Children Bread.

Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 22.-The Banner today printed the following notice: "Man for sale.

"On Saturday, December 23, on the public square at Nashville, Tenn., I offer for sale myself to the highest bidder by the hour, day, month or year dies in the flat. Shortly afterwards to suit the master who makes the purthe family left, having lived there for chase. I am 40 years old; sound of limb and mind; good carpenter; fair machinist or good subject for dissect-

> 'Sale at 3 o'clock! Children must have bread.

> (Signed) "A SLAVE." The man proposing to offer himseif

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A Thought for the Week.

If you are generous to others and grateful to God on Christmas day, why can you not strive to be the same on Corntossel. "My grandfather put every other day for the twelve-month. mortgages on this place that ain't That is a poor watch that is right only paid off yet."-Washington Star. once in twenty-four hours. Keep medical literature which go to prove Christmas in a warm heart, and open we have little or nothing to fear from hand all the year round!-Theodore L. Cuyler.

Hog 12 Months Old Weighed 47o. Yesterday Mr. John A. Dalrymple killed a hog that weighed 540 pounds net. On the same day Mr. J. P. Avent killed a hog just 20 days over a year News. losis should be reported to the health old that weighed 475 pounds. Who

> A West Virginia darkey, a black- ings in America, Pat?" smith, recently announced a change in Pat: "Tall buildings hav' they-faith his business as follows: Notice-De Mike, the last one I worked on we had co-partnership heretofore resisting be- to lay on our stomachs to let the moon tween me and Mose Skinner is hereby pass."-Life. resolved. Dem what owe de firm will settle wid me, and dem what de firm owe will settle wid Mose."-National Corporation Reporter.

"Did any of your ancestors d things to cause posterity to remember them?" asked the haughty woman. "I reckon they did," replied Farmer

Long: "Why did you leave the place where you formerly boarded?" Short: "Because the landlady had too much curiosity." Long: "In what direction?" Short: "Oh, she was continually asking me when I was going to pay my board bill."-Chicago Daily

Laborer: "And have they tall build-

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